

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 /014 W
----- 122565

P R 041047Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2599
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 4091

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ML EAID IBD, AFDS

SUBJ: PROJECT INSPECTION TRIP: MALI ITINERARY

REF: ABIDJAN 9058

1. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT USINE DE TEXTILE DE BAMAKO (PARA 4B REFTTEL) IS NOT BEST EXAMPLE OF DEVELOPMENTAL FINANCE PROJECT. FIFTY-TWO PERCENT OF CAPITAL IS HELD BY A FRENCH GROUP, WITH FORTY-EIGHT PERCENT HELD BY GOM. GOVERNMENT'S SHARE CAME FROM DEVELOPMENT BANK OF MALI (BDM), WHICH, IN TURN, RECEIVED FUNDS FROM ADB. ALTHOUGH PLANT IS LARGE, MODERN AND IMPRESSIVE, IT APPEARS THAT BENEFITS TO MALI ARE LIMITED, WHILE FRENCH SUPPLIERS OF TEXTILE MACHINERY HAVE REAPED THE MAJOR BENEFITS. REASONS ARE SIMPLE: THE PLANT INCURRED ENORMOUS DEBTS TO IMPORT EXPENSIVE AND SOPHISTICATED LABOR-SAVING TEXTILE MACHINERY FROM FRANCE. PLANT ITSELF AFTER THREE YEARS IS NOT TURNING A PROFIT SINCE REVENUES DEVOTED TO PAYING FOR MACHINERY AND FUTURE PROSPECTS UNCLEAR.

2. BENEFITS TO MALI ARE THE EMPLOYMENT OF 850 WORKERS AND IMPORT SUBSTITUTION OF 3 MILLION METERS
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OF CLOTH WHICH OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPORTED

FROM NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. THE PLANT WOULD HAVE
BETTER SERVED MALI'S NEEDS, HOWEVER, WITH LESS
SOPHISTICATED MACHINERY, AND CONSEQUENTLY HIGHER
EMPLOYMENT, AND WOULD ALSO HAVE A LOWER DEBT BURDEN
AND GREATER PROSPECTS FOR PROFITABLE OPERATION.

3. EMBASSY CAN, OF COURSE, ARRANGE VISIT TO THIS
PLANT, BUT WISH TO BRING TO DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION
PARTICULAR NATURE OF THIS TEXTILE PLANT.
MCGUIRE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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